



Building and Strengthening Disaster Readiness Among Neighbors



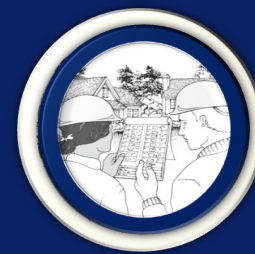
Remember - In a disaster your most immediate source of help are the neighbors living around you.

Prepare

Neighborhoods that are prepared for emergencies and disaster situations save lives, reduce the severity of injuries and trauma, and reduce property damage. In addition, contributing as an individual and working together as a team helps develop stronger communities and improve the quality of life in the community.

Learn

- The 9 steps to take immediately following a disaster.
- Develop a neighborhood skills and equipment inventory.
- Map your neighborhood to identify areas of concern such as natural gas meters.
- Verify neighbors that may need extra help in a disaster such as the elderly, those with a disability, or children who may be home alone.



Introduction to Map Your Neighborhood

Map Your Neighborhood (MYN) is a program designed to help neighborhoods prepare for disasters. It is offered through your local county or city Emergency Management Office.

Program Synopsis

- Learn the first ***9 Steps to Take Immediately Following a Disaster*** to secure your home and protect your neighborhood. It is hard to think clearly following disaster. These steps will help you to quickly and safely take actions that can minimize damage and protect lives.
- Identify the ***Skills and Equipment Inventory*** each neighbor has that are useful in an effective disaster response. Knowing which neighbors have supplies and skills ensures a timely response to a disaster and allows everyone to contribute to the response in a meaningful way.
- Create a ***Neighborhood Map*** identifying the locations of natural gas and propane tanks for quick response if needed.
- Create a ***Neighborhood Contact List*** that identifies those with specific needs such as the elderly, those with a disability, or homes where children may be alone during certain hours of the day.
- Work together as a team to evaluate your neighborhood after a disaster and take the necessary actions.

Program Structure

- To start a neighborhood group, attend a ***MYN Train-the-Facilitator*** session. This 2-hour training session provides you with important information on how to effectively facilitate a neighborhood meeting, details the ***9 Steps to Take Immediately Following a Disaster***, and answers any questions you may have.
- Once you are trained, you may order the MYN Program materials through your local county or city Emergency Management Office. These materials include the MYN Neighborhood Handout, MYN Discussion Guide, MYN DVD for use during your meeting, and the MYN CD which contains forms, resources and additional information.
- After facilitating a MYN team, fill out the MYN Postcard and send it to your county or city Emergency Management Office. This will allow them to track the number of teams and evaluate the program.

For more information:

If you have questions please contact LuAn Johnson, Public Education Program Manager at: 253.512.7047 or Rosanne Garrand, Public Education Coordinator at: 253.512.7419. You can also contact your local Emergency Management Office: www.emd.wa.gov/myn/myn_contact_info.shtml.